



# FACT SHEET

USAF Fact Sheet

## **AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS CENTER**

Located at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, Aeronautical Systems Center is the largest of three product centers within Air Force Materiel Command. The center designs, develops and delivers dominant aerospace weapon systems and capabilities for U.S. Air Force, other U.S. military, allied and coalition-partner warfighters, in support of Air Force leadership priorities.

ASC has a workforce of close to 12,000 people, located at the base and 37 units worldwide, and is managing an FY06 budget of approximately \$27 billion. The center is organized into wings, groups and squadrons designed to foster synergy in the acquisition process and speed delivery of war-winning capabilities. ASC's portfolio includes capabilities in fighter/attack, long-range strike, reconnaissance, mobility, agile combat support, special operations forces, training, unmanned aircraft systems, human systems integration and installation support.

By supporting development and acquisition for these capabilities, ASC contributes to achievement of Air Force, joint, allied and coalition partner priorities. The center focuses on speed and innovation in acquisition management, as well as on rapid transition of technology into systems and business practices, development and retention of a high performance work force and formation of strong partnerships with war-fighting operators in the field, industry and the local community.

To deliver war-winning capabilities, ASC manages a wide variety of aircraft and related equipment programs. These include the low-observable B-2 Spirit bomber and F-117A Nighthawk; Global Hawk and Predator unmanned aircraft systems and a new Combat Search and Rescue helicopter program--all for Air Combat Command.

ASC also manages the C-17 Globemaster III for Air Mobility Command. A large-capacity transport with both inter- and intra-theater capabilities, it can airlift troops or oversized loads such as Army battle tanks or Apache helicopters. In addition, the center manages upgrades to AMC's C-5 and C-130 aircraft. The center also manages the CV-22 Osprey and supports legacy systems like the AC-130U gunship and MC-130 Combat Talon II, for Air Force Special Operations Command, and the T-6A Texan II Joint Primary Aircraft Training System and T-1A Jayhawk, for Air Education and Training Command.

The center develops and acquires simulator systems; propulsion systems; equipment to resolve aging aircraft issues and electronic systems for targeting, electronic warfare, reconnaissance and other combat functions. In addition, ASC's 311<sup>th</sup> Human Systems

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*(Current as of 2 March 2006)*

Wing, located at Brooks AFB, manages a variety of development and acquisition programs that focus on aircrew and ground support personnel.

ASC also provides resource support for the F-22A Raptor, F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and Airborne Laser programs. The F-22A is the Air Force's newest air-dominance, low-observable fighter and provides first-look, first-shot, first-kill capability. The F-35, the Department of Defense's next generation strike aircraft for the Navy, Air Force, Marines and our allies, will bring cutting-edge, affordable technologies to the battlespace of the future. The ABL is being developed and managed by the Missile Defense Agency and is designed to destroy missiles in boost phase, providing critical deterrence and defensive capabilities.

The center's acquisition experts interface daily with AFMC's Air Force Research Laboratory, also headquartered at Wright-Patterson. The two units maintain a strong, symbiotic relationship that helps set the laboratory's research agenda and ensures a continuous flow of critical, advanced technology for weapon systems developed by ASC.

Another part of the center, its 88th Air Base Wing, is the host unit at Wright-Patterson AFB, serving organizations on base and at other locations in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky. The wing provides all of the services associated with life in a small city, including force protection, warehousing, supply, transportation, education, recreation and shopping facilities. It operates a runway complex that handles 40,000 takeoffs and landings a year, as well as a contingency aerial port, which deploys military assets throughout the world. In addition, the wing is home to the 88th Medical Group, which operates the Wright-Patterson Medical Center, second largest medical center in the Air Force.

ASC also operates a Major Shared Resource Center, one of four high-performance computing centers in the Department of Defense. The center is tackling large-scale problems previously beyond the reach of processing platforms and providing a vast array of services in a collaborative environment which includes government, industry and academia. In addition, ASC has access to the Simulation and Analysis Facility, a major hub connecting developers and researchers at Wright-Patterson with others across the Air Force, DoD and industry. These two facilities allow scientists and engineers who are wrestling with future weapon system integration and operational issues the opportunity to visualize, build, test and evaluate those systems in a virtual world before work is initiated and significant money is spent.

Capabilities provided by all of these units and facilities are part of ASC's multi-faceted support for the Global War on Terrorism. That support not only includes rapid development of urgently needed weapon systems, it also includes helping Air Force planners decide how best to train for and employ those new weapon systems. Center experts have networked training simulators for ASC-developed platforms into vast DoD war-gaming exercises, contributing a level of reality and detail which would have been impossible in previous decades. In addition, the center routinely deploys troops to Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations. From troops to technologically-advanced weapon systems to training simulators—ASC provides comprehensive combat capability for U.S., allied and coalition partner warfighters.

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